

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as indicated below.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Implant for altering the iris color, ~~consisting of comprising~~ a completely or partially transparent, semi-transparent or non-transparent, colored, biocompatible and flexible material, wherein

the implant is formed annularly thereby forming an annular area coming to rest on the iris of an eye, and

said implant further comprising a central circular opening, and

at least one attaching means is formed for detachable attachment of the implant to the iris, wherein the attaching means is disposed within the annular area.
2. (currently amended) Implant according to claim 1, wherein said attaching means ~~consists of comprises~~ at least one opening in the annular area, the opening serving for passing and anchoring the underlying partial areas of the iris.
3. (original) Implant according to claim 2, wherein said opening is formed in the shape of cross-slits.
4. (original) Implant according to claim 2, wherein said opening has projections and/or a rough surface at its inner circumference.
5. (currently amended) Implant according to claim 1, wherein said attaching means ~~consists of comprises~~ at least one hook-like protrusion or projection, the projection serving for penetrating and hooking the implant into the corresponding partial areas of the iris.

6. (original) Implant according to claim 5, wherein said projection comprises an exposed end that is formed tapered.
7. (currently amended) Implant according to claim 5, wherein said projection ~~consists of~~ comprises biocompatible material.
8. (currently amended) Implant according to claim 6, wherein said projection ~~consists of~~ comprises biocompatible material.
9. (currently amended) Implant according to claim 1, wherein one or both of said implant ~~and/or the~~ and said projection ~~consists of~~ comprises biocompatible ~~plasties~~ plastic.
10. (currently amended) Implant according to claim 5, wherein one or both of said implant ~~and/or the~~ and said projection ~~consists of~~ comprises biocompatible ~~plasties~~ plastic.
11. (original) Implant according to claim 1, wherein an optical lens or a transparent foil is disposed in the central opening of the implant.
12. (original) Implant according to claim 1, wherein said implant is printable.
13. (original) Implant according to claim 1, wherein said implant has a diameter of 5 to 12 mm and a thickness of 50 to 300 μm .
14. (original) Implant according to claim 1, wherein said central circular opening has a diameter adapted to the diameter of the implant of 5 to 7 mm.
15. (original) Implant according to claim 1, wherein said implant comprises edges and the edges are formed completely or partially irregularly or serrated.

16. (original) A method of locating and fixing an intraocular implant for altering the iris color comprising the steps of:

- a) preparing an eye to receive an intraocular implant;
- b) inserting the intraocular implant into the eye via a small cut in the eye;
- c) positioning said implant on the iris of the eye, wherein said implant consists of a completely or partially transparent, semi-transparent or non-transparent, colored, biocompatible and flexible material and wherein said implant is formed annularly and forms an annular area coming to rest on the iris of said eye, said implant further comprising a central circular opening and at least one attaching means for a detachable attachment of the implant to the iris, wherein said attaching means is disposed within the annular area;
- d) attaching said implant to the iris; and
- e) closing the eye where said implant was inserted.

17. (currently amended) The method of claim 16, wherein said attaching means comprises
~~A method of locating and fixing an intraocular implant for altering the iris color comprising the steps of:~~

- a) ~~preparing an eye to receive an intraocular implant;~~
- b) ~~inserting the intraocular implant into the eye via a small cut in the eye;~~
- c) ~~positioning said implant on the iris of the eye, wherein said implant consists of a completely or partially transparent, semi-transparent or non-transparent, colored, biocompatible and flexible material and wherein said implant is formed annularly, and forms an annular area coming to rest on the iris of said eye, said implant further comprising a central circular opening and at least one attaching means for a detachable attachment of the implant to the iris, wherein said attaching means is disposed within the annular area and consists of at least one opening in the annular area, wherein the opening serves for passing and anchoring the underlying partial areas of the iris thereby attaching said implant to the iris; and~~
- d) ~~closing the eye where said implant was inserted.~~

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said attachment step of attaching comprises is carried out by passing said underlying partial areas of the iris through the opening with a spatula or another surgical instrument.
19. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein said attachment step of attaching comprises is carried out by passing said underlying partial areas of the iris through the opening by suction with a suction means.
20. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said opening is formed in the shape of cross-slits.
21. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said opening has projections and/or a rough surface at its inner circumference.
22. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the attaching means comprises ~~A method of locating and fixing an intraocular implant for altering the iris color comprising the steps of:~~
 - a) ~~preparing an eye to receive an intraocular implant;~~
 - b) ~~inserting the intraocular implant into the eye via a small cut in the eye;~~
 - c) ~~positioning said implant on the iris of the eye, wherein said implant consists of a completely or partially transparent, semi transparent or non transparent, colored, biocompatible and flexible material and wherein said implant is formed annularly, and forms an annular area coming to rest on the iris of said eye, said implant further comprising a central circular opening and at least one attaching means for a detachable attachment of the implant to the iris, wherein said attaching means is disposed within the annular area and consists of at least one hook-like protrusion or projection, said projection serving for penetrating and hooking said implant into the corresponding partial areas of the iris thereby attaching said implant to the iris; and~~
 - d) ~~closing the eye where said implant was inserted.~~

23. (original) The method of claim 22, wherein said projection comprises an exposed end that is formed tapered.
24. (new) A method of implanting an intraocular implant for altering the iris color comprising:
 - a) positioning the implant on the iris of the eye, wherein the implant consists of a completely or partially transparent, semi-transparent or non-transparent, colored, biocompatible and flexible material and wherein the implant is formed annularly and forms an annular area coming to rest on the iris of the eye, the implant further comprising a central circular opening and at least one attaching means for a detachable attachment of the implant to the iris, wherein the attaching means is disposed within the annular area; and
 - b) attaching the implant to the iris.
25. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the attaching means comprises at least one opening in the annular area for passing and anchoring the underlying partial areas of the iris.
26. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the attaching means comprises at least one hook-like protrusion or projection.
27. (new) The method of claim 26, wherein the protrusion or projection comprises an exposed end that is tapered in shape.